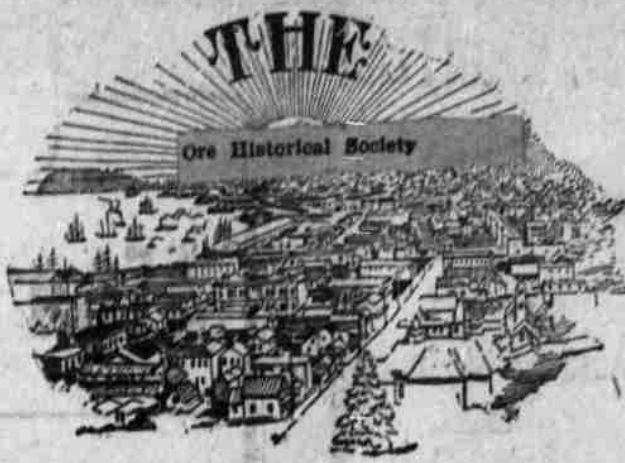


Morning

PUBLISHED FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT



Astorian.

COVERS THE MORNING FIELD ON THE LOWER COLUMBIA

VOLUME LVIV. NO. 165

ASTORIA, OREGON. TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1905.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

AN EMBEZZLER

Frank Bigelow of Milwaukee Arrested.

CONFESSES TO CRIME

Admits That He Is a Defaulter in Sum of Nearly a Million and a Half.

REMOVED FROM PRESIDENCY

Bigelow Was President of the First National Bank of Milwaukee and Confesses That He Lost the Money in Speculating in Stocks and Wheat.

Milwaukee, April 24.—Frank G. Bigelow, until today president of the First National Bank of Milwaukee, was arrested today, charged with embezzlement of over \$1,000,000 of the bank's funds. The arrest of Bigelow followed his confession to the board of directors of the bank that he was a defaulter to the extent of \$1,450,000. Following Bigelow's confession he was removed from the presidency of the bank and the facts at once laid before the federal authorities.

The complaint was sworn to by United States District Attorney Rutterfield. It charges Frank G. Bigelow, as president of the First National Bank, has embezzled a sum of money exceeding \$1,000,000. The complaint and warrant are identical with those in the Bigelow case made out for Henry G. Goll, assistant bank cashier, but Goll has not been found up to 7 o'clock tonight.

Bigelow was taken before United States Commissioner Bloodgood tonight. He waived a hearing and was held to the federal grand jury under \$25,000 bonds. Dr. Horace M. Brown and Arthur McGooch certified as sureties and Bigelow was released. The next federal grand jury has not been summoned but is expected to meet some time this month.

Bigelow's confession was made at a special meeting of the board of directors Saturday evening and continued yesterday and all last night. In addressing his fellow directors Bigelow said he had a painful statement to make; a confession that he had misdirected the funds of the bank and an examination of his books and a comparison of figures would show that he was indebted to the bank to the amount of over \$1,450,000. This money, he said, had been lost in speculation in wheat and stocks. Not a dollar of it could be recovered and the only sum he could offer toward recompensing the bank were personal securities valued approximately at \$300,000.

The confession of Bigelow astounded the bank directors. Bigelow was recognized as one of the foremost financiers for many years. He had been associated with the First National Bank in various capacities for more than 15 years and his business connections with trust companies, manufacturing concerns, real estate deals and other similar ventures numbered scores. He was honored a year ago by the election to the presidency of the American Bankers' Association.

In making the statement to the directors of the bank, Bigelow said, he had been involved in speculating several months ago. This was in Wall street. Later he had been a persistent bull in the wheat market and his recent losses there had added to heavy reverses on Wall street. From small manipulation of bank funds he had extended his defalcations until his shortage had reached its present stage. He saw no opportunity or possibility to make up the amount and, therefore, confessed.

It is stated that at the meeting of the directors, which was almost continuous for 36 hours, that it was stormy at times. Several plans were suggested for protecting the interests of the bank. One was to accept the resignation of the president and permit him to go to Europe and the directors make

good the shortage. This would effectually protect the bank. The proposal met with a determined opposition from the directors who demanded that the defaulter be punished. The plan to make up the shortage was approved and Bigelow removed from the presidency of the bank and referred to the federal authorities.

ADD BIGELOW Bigelow is left a poor man by speculations and has surrendered his securities to the bank. At one time he was rated as a millionaire and this fortune is lost as well as the sum taken from the bank. His total losses in speculations of various kinds in two years is estimated at more than \$3,000,000. He has a magnificent home on Astor street, and his family is one of the most prominent socially in this city.

The board of directors late today issued a statement declaring the bank absolutely solvent. They announce that Bigelow and his associates will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

SHOOTING IN TEXAS.

Three Men Killed at a Local Option Mass Meeting.

Hempstead, Texas, April 24.—Congressman John M. Pickney and three other men were killed at a mass meeting here tonight, called for the purpose of petitioning the governor to send rangers here to enforce the local option law. A relative of J. N. Brown, a leading lawyer and leading anti-prohibitionist, it is said began the shooting which became general in an instant.

The dead are: J. N. BROWN, CONGRESSMAN J. M. PICKNEY, JOHN E. MILLS, a prominent farmer, TOM PICKNEY, a brother of the congressman. Doc Thompson, private secretary of Congressman Pickney, and Rollin

Brown, son of J. N. Brown, are badly wounded, but how seriously cannot be learned. Many armed men are on the streets tonight but it is not believed there will be any more trouble.

The governor has been notified and will send rangers here. When the trouble began Thompson was making a speech. Brown had the floor. He used language which was objected to and at the same time grasped Thompson by the coat. Congressman Pickney sprang forward and the shooting began. No one appears to know who fired the first shot, though it is said that a kinsman of Brown fired and Congressman Pickney was the first to fall. A number of men appeared to have been engaged in the shooting and something like 100 shots were fired.

CRUISER RALEIGH AT CAVITE. Sent to Protect Philippines from Russian Squadron.

Washington, April 24.—The United States cruiser Raleigh, which some days ago sailed from Labuan, Borneo for Cuyo islands in the Philippines, has arrived at Cavite, according to a cable report to the navy department. It is assumed here that the Raleigh's captain had reason to believe that some ships of hostile fleets might enter the Philippine waters in the vicinity of Cuyo island.

The navy department has been advised that the gunboat Villalobos sailed from Shanghai for a cruise. While not stated in what direction the vessel has gone, it is believed her mission is to observe the movements of hostile fleets in the event that they turn toward Philippine waters.

COURT HOUSE CASE DECIDED

The Oregon Supreme Court Has Reversed Judge McBride's Decision.

THE LEGISLATIVE ACT IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Constitutional Prohibition Forbidding Counties to Contract Indebtedness in excess of \$5,000 Upheld by the Court.

PERNICIOUS EFFECT OF A MOSSBACK CONSTITUTION

The Court House Will Be Built, Provided the Next County Court Is of the Same Opinion as the Present One, as There is no Doubt it Meets With the Approval of the Largest Taxpayers, and Is an Absolute Necessity for the Growing Needs of the County.

Salem, Ore., April 24.—The supreme court of Oregon handed down an opinion today in the Clatsop county court house case in which it reverses an opinion rendered by Judge McBride at the February term of court. The decision is in effect a construction of section 10 of article XI of the constitution of the state which provides: "No county shall create any debts or

be collectable, and (3) the purpose for which said tax shall be levied. That thereupon, and without any further order, to be made thereafter by such county court, such levy shall be held to be good, valid and existing levy, and the tax thereafter shall be collected each and every year thereafter for and during the series of years which the same shall be levied by said

The constitution of the state of Oregon was adopted September 18, 1857, nearly 50 years ago, and might have been sufficient for a young state with about 20,000 population, but it has outgrown the old mossback instrument, which has retarded the growth and prosperity of the state and placed it behind its sister state of Washington and in five years will be behind Idaho. Several attempts have been made to have a new constitution commensurate with the growing needs of the state, but it has been opposed by the Oregonian and cow county representatives in the legislature.

County Judge Trenchard was seen yesterday and asked what the county expected to do for a court house. He stated that it was a little early, to map out any definite plan of action, but presumed that the county would have to wait until the annual taxes could be levied and collected and a sufficient sum realized to complete the court house. The county may possibly have to lease a building for court house purposes, as it is impossible to fix up the present old shack, and impossible to use it for any length of time.

Several large property owners were interviewed and all expressed regret at the decision of the supreme court. If there was the same amount of enterprise in Astoria as obtains in Seattle, there could be sufficient money raised in one week by subscription to build the court house. One prominent gentleman has suggested the organization of a joint stock company, with sufficient capital to complete the court house under the contract heretofore made, and wait until the taxes are paid in for reimbursement. Whether there are sufficient enterprising citizens in Astoria to do this is not known, but the citizens and tax payers ought to hold a meeting and devise ways and means for completing the court house this year. There is no doubt the county court would be willing to pay 6 per cent interest on

RICH SINNERS

Sermon By Rockefeller's Pastor.

SCORES MILLIONAIRES

More Time Given to Drawing Room Politeness Than to Christianity.

CARD PARTIES AND CHURCHES

Fashionable Women Go to Card Parties in the Afternoon and Theaters in the Evening and Churches to Show Stylish Garments and Create Talk.

Cleveland, April 24.—The most hopeless people in Cleveland are the millionaires. They are sending their sons and daughter to perdition. They rear a boy, send him to the dancing master; he learns how to enter the drawing room properly, and how to say empty things properly, and he is lost. This is the most appalling spectacle in the world, declared the Rev. Charles A. Eaton, pastor of the Rockefeller Euclid Baptist church, at the noon meeting for men yesterday.

The theological seminaries, he continued, are complaining that they cannot get students. Years ago mothers, knowing that they were to have children, prayed to God that they might be boys and that they might be preachers of Christ's gospel. Can you conceive of a modern mother making that prayer?

If the parents have ordinary means, the mother now goes to card parties in the afternoon, the mother and father go to the theater at night, and in the morning the father wakes up with a scheme to skin his neighbor. The nurse takes care of the children all day. The son of modern wealthy parents is a fool who may give him a million dollars and an automobile and he is a fool still. With ten millions he is a consummate fool, and with 50 millions he is a fool described by an adjective I am not allowed to use.

All over Cleveland there are homes with fine servants, fine furniture and the members wear fine clothes, but there are no souls. Father, mother, sons and daughters with no souls. There is nothing in these houses. They are working to crucify themselves. Oh, my God! Somebody has got to do the work.

SUITS FOR DAMAGES.

Colorado Mining Companies Sue Western Federation of Miners.

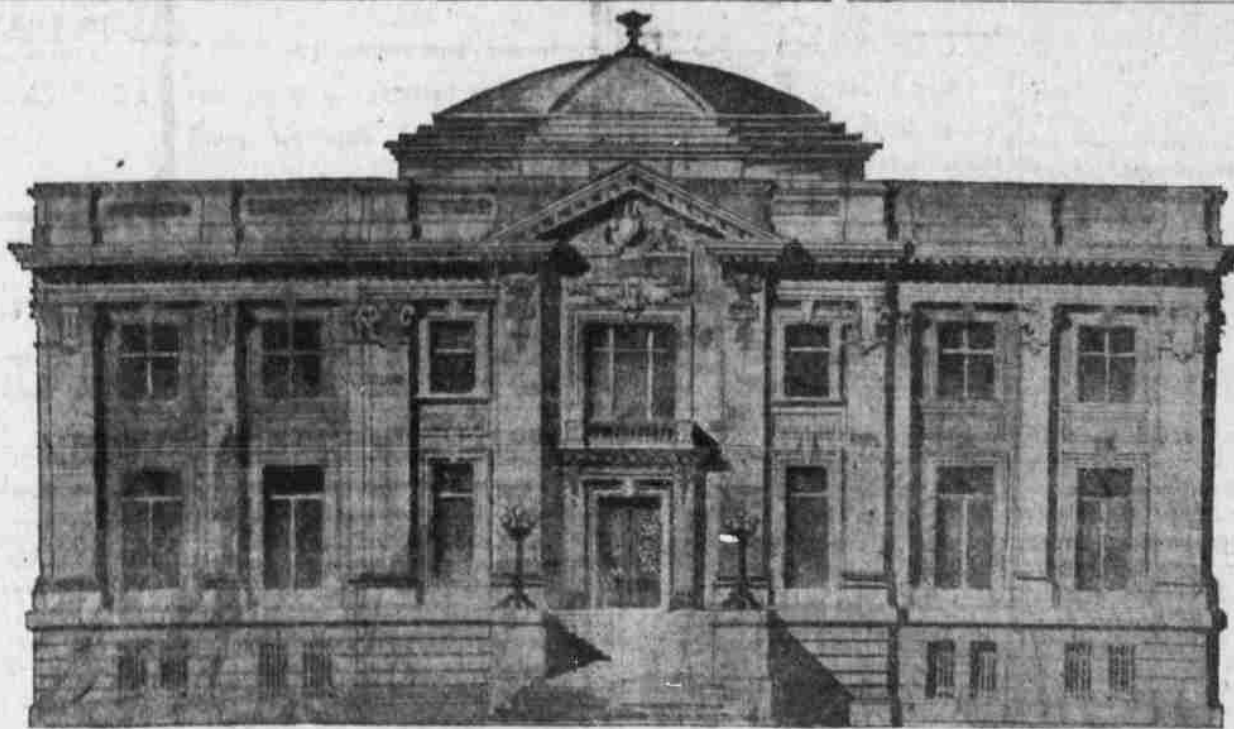
Denver, April 24.—Suits for damages aggregating \$1,000,000 were filed in the state and federal courts by the United States Reduction & Refining Company and a number of Cripple Creek mining companies against the Western Federation of Miners and its officers. The complaints all charge that the defendants, with unlawfully conspiring to injure plaintiffs, prevented their mining and shipping of ore.

DECLINE IN WHEAT.

Big Break in the Chicago Wheat Market Reported.

Chicago, April 24.—Wheat for May delivery sold down to 92½ cents a bushel, a decrease of 7½ cents, compared with Saturday's closing quotations. At the close the market rallied to 93 cents.

The sensational decline today, following the big break of last week, resulted in a general liquidation, participated in by John W. Gates, the erstwhile bull leader. Millions of bushels of May wheat changed hands and ownership during the day's exciting session. At the close of trading it is claimed by close observers that all the enormous line held by the Wall street clique had been liquidated. The market steadied late in the day on improved demand, Armour & Co. being credited with heavy purchases of both May and July options.



THE PROPOSED CLATSOP COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

liabilities which shall singly or in the aggregate exceed the sum of \$5000, except to suppress insurrection or repel invasion."

The decision was in the case of A. Brix et al vs. Clatsop county on appeal from Clatsop county, to restrain the county from letting a contract for building a court house and levying a special tax for the same. The opinion was delivered by Judge Bean and is a construction of an act of the legislative assembly authorizing Clatsop county to levy a special tax running through a series of years for the purpose of building a court house. The opinion states that the act was designed to enable the county to avoid the constitutional prohibition, and that a contract to pay a special or certain sum of money, although to be collected by an annual tax in the future is creating an indebtedness contrary to the provisions of the constitution, and therefore void.

The act of the legislature referred to is as follows:

"The county court of Clatsop county is hereby authorized and empowered, at its January term, A. D. 1905, to levy a special tax upon all the taxable property in said county, not to exceed 5 mills on the dollar, for the purpose of constructing, erecting, completing and furnishing a court house in said county to be continued thereafter through such a series of years as the said county court shall order at said term. That the order of said county court levying such tax shall be spread at large upon the journal of the court and shall specify plainly: (1) the amount of such yearly levy; (2) the number of years the same shall run, and the last year the same shall

court at said term, in the same manner that all taxes are collected, but all moneys collected thereon shall be kept separate and deposited with the county treasurer, at the same time and in the same manner that all taxes are by law required to be paid to and deposited with the county treasurer, and the same shall be by such treasurer safely kept in a separate fund to be known and designated as the "court house fund."

That it shall not be necessary at any subsequent term of said court, or at any subsequent term thereof when taxes are by law required to be or shall be levied, to again levy said special tax, but the same shall continue a good, valid and existing levy from the date thereof, and during each year thereafter until the full series of years designated by said court at said term in January, 1905, shall have expired, without any further order in the premises and the same shall be collected accordingly."

The above is the part of the act which the supreme court holds unconstitutional and in direct conflict with the constitution of the state. There is no question but the act was framed to get around the constitutional prohibition, being the only way in which the county could enter into a contract for the completion of the court house without waiting until the entire tax levy could be collected, which under the present low assessment of property in the county would require about 15 years. If the property of the county were assessed at its actual cash value, as the law requires shall be done, but which is not observed, sufficient money could be raised within three years to build the court house.

the money advanced. It is to be hoped that the citizens will come forward and show the same energy and determination as exists in other cities and towns.

SNOW IN COLORADO.

Two Feet of Snow Falls in Twenty-Four Hours.

Trinidad, April 24.—Two feet of wet, heavy snow covers this section and the indications tonight are that the storm is not yet over, as the weather is still threatening. Purgator river, which overflowed its banks last fall and caused damage to the Santa Fe road of half a million dollars, is raising rapidly and grave fears are entertained that the devastation will be repeated.

Owing to the destruction of the water mains supplying Trinidad, the business section of the city is entirely without water. The mains cannot be repaired until the river recedes.

LOTTERIES SUPPRESSED.

Mexican and Honduras Lotteries Raided by Officers.

San Francisco, April 24.—Acting under instructions from Washington, the federal authorities today began what is declared to be an active campaign against lottery companies.

Officers connected with the United States marshal's office secret service and postoffice officials, raided the local agencies of the Honduras and Mexican lotteries and surprised the employees in the act of handling a large quantity of tickets. A large amount of papers and packages were also secured as evidence. A number of employees were arrested.